



1-309

3627

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Richard Humpert et al. : 10/election w/lny corr
Serial No.: 09/890,203 : E.P.
Atty. No.: 60,174-021 : 1-10-3
Filed : October 5, 2001 : GROUP: 3627
Title : SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR FUNCTIONAL UNIT : EXAMINER: Saether

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Box Non-Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

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GROUP 3600

In response to the Examiner's Restriction Requirement dated December 2, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests prosecution of Claims 1-22 with traverse. The Examiner indicates Claims 1-22 are drawn to a fastener, as recited in the claims "a function carrier." Applicant believes that Claims 1-22, including independent Claim 1 are drawn to a single species. Applicant respectfully submits that independent Claim 1 is a generic claim for a function carrier having a rivet sleeve.

Applicant retains the right to prosecute Claims 23-32 at a later time.

Applicant further provides drawings enclosed with this Response to assist the Examiner in evaluating the species set forth in Claims 1-22.

Although it is believed that no fee is due for the filing of this Response, the Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 08-2789 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayments regarding this Response.

Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted

HOWARD & HOWARD ATTORNEYS, P.C.

January 2, 2003

Date



Gregory D. DeGrazia, Reg. No. 48,944
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CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed **Response** is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope as "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee," Mailing Label No. **EV164144402US** and addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D. C. 20231, on **January 2, 2003**.



Tracy L. Smith